AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 26, 2006 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 24, 2006

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2701

Introduced by Assembly Member Blakeslee

February 24, 2006

An act to amend Sections 1701.3 and 1703.6 of the Water Code, relating to water. An act to amend Sections 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 13, 28, 36.8, and 36.16 of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Act (Chapter 1294 of the Statutes of 1945), relating to the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2701, as amended, Blakeslee. Appropriation of water. San Luis Obispo County Flood and Integrated Water Management District.

Existing law, the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Act, creates the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and grants to that district specified powers and responsibilities.

This bill would change the name of that law to the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Integrated Water Management District Act and the name of the district to the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Integrated Water Management District. The bill would authorize the district to implement integrated regional water management programs and projects, including groundwater banking of water supplies made available from the State Water Project, water reliability programs benefiting State Water Project supplies for users

AB 2701 -2-

in the Counties of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara, and other projects and programs that promote specified objectives of the district's integrated regional water management plan. The bill would make conforming changes and certain technical, nonsubstantive corrections to that law.

Under existing law relating to the appropriation of water, an applicant, permittee, or licensee may change the point of diversion, place of use, or purpose of use of water from that specified in the application, permit, or license, with the permission of the State Water Resources Control Board. Existing law provides petition procedures for such a change, and authorizes any interested person to file with the board a written protest against approval of a petition. Existing law authorizes the board to request from the protestant additional information reasonably necessary to clarify, amplify, correct, or otherwise supplement the information included in the protest, and to request from the protestant or the petitioner additional information that the board determines is reasonably necessary to attempt to resolve the protest. Existing law authorizes the board to cancel a protest or petition for failure to provide information requested by the board under this article within the period provided.

This bill would make technical and clarifying changes to those provisions relating to requesting additional information and canceling a protest.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 1 of the San Luis Obispo County Flood
- 2 Control and Water Conservation District Act (Chapter 1294 of
- 3 the Statutes of 1945) is amended to read:
- 4 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
- 5 San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation
- 6 Integrated Water Management District Act.
- 7 SEC. 2. Section 2 of the San Luis Obispo County Flood
- 8 Control and Water Conservation District Act (Chapter 1294 of
- 9 the Statutes of 1945), as amended by Chapter 2045 of the
- 10 Statutes of 1959, is amended to read:
- 11 Sec. 2. (a) A flood control district The San Luis Obispo
- 12 County Flood Control and Integrated Water Management

-3- AB 2701

- 1 District is hereby created to be called the San Luis Obispo
- 2 County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. Said.
- 3 The district shall consist of all the territory of the County of San
- 4 Luis Obispo lying within the exterior boundaries of said the
- 5 county except-such the islands of-said the county-as-lie in the
- 6 Pacific Ocean. As
- 7 (b) As used in this act, "district" means the San Luis Obispo 8 County Flood Control and Water Conservation Integrated Water 9 Management District.
- 10 SEC. 3. Section 5 of the San Luis Obispo County Flood 11 Control and Water Conservation District Act (Chapter 1294 of 12 the Statutes of 1945), as amended by Chapter 584 of the Statutes 13 of 1975, is amended to read:
 - Sec. 5. The district is hereby declared to be a body corporate and politic and as such shall have, in addition to the other powers vested in it by this act, the following powers to do all of the following:
- 18 1. To have

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- (a) Have perpetual succession.
- 20 2. To sue
 - (b) Sue and be sued in the name of—said the district in all actions and proceedings in all courts and tribunals of competent jurisdiction.
 - 3. To adopt
 - (c) Adopt a seal and alter it at the district's pleasure.
 - 4. To acquire
 - (d) (1) Acquire by grant, purchase, lease, gift, devise, contract, construction, or otherwise, and to hold, use, enjoy, sell, let, and dispose of real and personal property of every kind, including lands, structures, buildings, rights-of-way, easements, and privileges, and to construct.
 - (2) Construct, maintain, alter, and operate any and all works or improvements, within or without outside the district, necessary or proper to carry out any of the objects or purposes of this act and convenient to the full exercise of its powers, and to complete,.
 - (3) Complete, extend, add to, alter, remove, repair, or otherwise improve any works, or improvements, or property acquired by it as authorized by the district in accordance with this act.
- 40 5. To store

AB 2701 —4—

(e) (1) Store water in surface or underground reservoirs within or outside-of the district for the common benefit of the district or of any zone or zones affected; to conserve.

- (2) Conserve and reclaim water for present and future use within the district; to appropriate.
- (3) Appropriate and acquire water and water rights, and import water into the district and—to conserve, within or outside—of the district, water for any purpose useful to the district; to commence.
- (4) Commence, maintain, intervene in, and compromise, in the name of the district, or otherwise, and—to assume the costs and expenses of any action or proceeding involving or affecting the ownership or use of waters or water rights within or—without outside the district, used or useful for any purpose of the district or of common benefit to any land situated—therein in the district, or involving the wasteful use of water—therein; to commence, in the district.
- (5) Commence, maintain, intervene in, defend, and compromise, and to assume the cost and expenses of, any and all actions and proceedings now or hereafter begun; to prevent to do either of the following:
- (A) Prevent interference with or diminution of, or to declare rights in the natural flow of, any stream or surface or subterranean supply of waters used or useful for any purpose of the district or of common benefit to the lands within the district or to its inhabitants; to prevent.
- (B) Prevent unlawful exportation of water from—said the district; to or prevent contamination, pollution, or otherwise rendering unfit for beneficial use the surface or subsurface water used in-said the district, and to commence.
- (6) Commence, maintain, and defend—actions' actions and proceedings to prevent any—such interference with—the aforesaid those waters—as that may endanger or damage the inhabitants; or land of, or use of water in, or flowing into, the district; provided, however, that said. The district shall not have power to intervene or take part in, or to pay the costs or expenses of, actions or controversies between the owners of lands or water rights—which that do not affect the interests of the district.
 - 6. To control

5 AB 2701

- (f) (1) Control the—flood floodwater and—storm waters stormwater of—said the district and the—flood floodwater and storm waters stormwater of streams that have their sources outside of said the district, but which streams and the floodwaters floodwater thereof, flow into—said the district, and to conserve such.
- (2) Conserve those waters for beneficial and useful purposes of-said the district by spreading, storing, retaining, and causing to percolate into the soil within or-without said outside the district, or-to save or conserve in any manner all or any of-such the waters and protect from damage from such flood the floodwater or storm waters stormwater, the watercourses, watersheds, public highways, life and property in-said the district, and the watercourses outside-of the district of streams flowing into the district.

7. To cooperate

- (g) (1) Cooperate and-to act in conjunction with the State of California state, or any of its engineers, officers, boards, commissions, departments or agencies, or with the federal government of the United States, or any of its engineers, officers, boards, commissions, departments or agencies, or with any public or private corporation, or with the County of San Luis Obispo, in the construction of any work for the controlling of flood floodwater or storm waters stormwater of, or flowing into said, the district, or for the purpose of conserving said the waters for beneficial use within said the district, or in any other works, acts, or purposes provided for herein, and to adopt in this act.
- (2) Adopt and carry out any definite plan or system of work for any-such purpose described in subdivision (a).

8. To carry

(h) Carry on technical and other necessary investigations, make measurements, collect data, make analyses, and undertake studies; and inspections pertaining to water supply, water rights, control of flood and storm waters floodwater and stormwater, and use of water both within and without said outside the district relating to watercourses of streams flowing in or into-said the district. For-such these purposes, the district shall have the right of access through its authorized representatives to all properties within the district and elsewhere relating to watercourses and

AB 2701 -6-

streams flowing in or into-said the district. The district, through its authorized representatives, may enter upon-such those lands and make examinations, surveys, and maps-thereof of those lands.

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- (i) (1) Enter upon any land, to make surveys and locate the necessary works of improvement and the lines for channels, conduits, canals, pipelines, roadways and other rights-of-way; to acquire.
- (2) Acquire by purchase, lease, contract, gift, devise, or other legal means all lands and water and water rights and other property necessary or convenient for the construction, use, supply, maintenance, repair and improvement of said these works, including works constructed and being constructed by private owners, lands for reservoirs for storage of necessary water, and all necessary appurtenances, and also where necessary or convenient to said end, and for said these purposes and uses, to acquire and to hold in the name of the state, the capital stock of any mutual water company or corporation, domestic or foreign, owning water or water rights, canals, waterworks, franchises, concessions, or rights, when the ownership of-such that stock is necessary to secure a water supply required by the district or any part thereof, upon the condition that when. When holding-such that stock, the district shall be entitled to all the rights, powers and privileges, and shall be subject to all the obligations and liabilities conferred or imposed by law upon other holders of such that stock in the same company; to enter.
- (3) Enter into and do any acts necessary or proper for the performance of any agreement with the United States, or any state, county, district of any kind, public or private corporation, association, firm, or individual, or any—number combination of them, for the joint acquisition, construction, leasing, ownership, disposition, use, management, maintenance, repair or operation of any rights, works or other property of a kind which might be lawfully acquired or owned by—said San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to acquire the district.
- (4) (A) Acquire the right to store water in any reservoirs, or to carry water through any canal, ditch, or conduit not owned or controlled by the district; to grant.

—7— AB 2701

- (B) Grant to any owner or lessee the right to the use of any water or right to store—such that water in any reservoir of the district, or to carry—such that water through any tunnels, canal, ditch, or conduit of the district; to enter.
- (5) Enter into and do any acts necessary or proper for the performance of any agreement with any district of any kind, public or private corporation, association, firm, or individual, or any-number combination of them for the transfer or delivery to any-such district, corporation, association, firm, or individual of any water right or water pumped, stored, appropriated or otherwise acquired or secured, for the use of the San Luis Obispo County F100d Control and Water Conservation District district, or for the purpose of exchanging the same for other water, water right, or water supply to be delivered to-said the district by the other party to said the agreement; to cooperate.
- (6) Cooperate with, and to act in conjunction with, the State of California state, or any of its engineers, officers, boards, commissions, departments or agencies, or with the federal government of the United States, or any of its engineers, officers, boards, commissions, departments or agencies, or with any public or private corporation, in the construction of any work for the controlling flood or storm waters floodwater or stormwater of streams in or running into said the district, or for the protection of life or property therein, or for the purpose of conserving said those waters for beneficial use within said the district, or in any other works, acts, or purposes provided for herein in this act, and to adopt and carry out any definite plan or system of work for any such that purpose.
 - 10. To incur

- (j) Incur indebtedness and to issue bonds in the manner herein
 provided accordance with this act.
 - 11. To cause
 - (k) Cause taxes or assessments to be levied and collected for the purpose of paying any obligation of the district, and-to carry out any of the purposes of this act, in-the manner hereinafter provided accordance with this act.
 - 12. To make

AB 2701 —8—

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(l) Make contracts, and to employ labor, and to do all acts necessary for the full exercise of all powers vested in said the district or any of the officers thereof, by this act

- (m) Implement any of the following:
- (1) Integrated regional water management programs and projects, including groundwater banking of water supplies made available from the State Water Project.
- (2) Water reliability programs benefitting State Water Project supplies for users in the Counties of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara.
- (3) Other projects and programs that promote water supply, water quality, ecosystem restoration, groundwater management, or flood control objectives of the district's integrated regional water management plan.
- 15 SEC. 4. Section 7 of the San Luis Obispo County Flood 16 Control and Water Conservation District Act (Chapter 1294 of 17 the Statutes of 1945) is amended to read:
- Sec. 7. (a) The board of supervisors of San Luis Obispo County shall be and is hereby designated as, and empowered to act as, ex officio the board of supervisors of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. As district.
 - (b) As used elsewhere in this act, the terms "board" and "board of supervisors" mean the board of supervisors of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District district.

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- (c) Except as otherwise provided in this act, all ordinances, resolutions, and other legislative acts for said the district shall be adopted by—said the board of supervisors, and certified to, recorded, and published, in the same manner,—except—as hereinotherwise—expressly—provided, as are ordinances, resolutions, or other legislative acts for the County of San Luis Obispo.
- 35 SEC. 5. Section 8 of the San Luis Obispo County Flood 36 Control and Water Conservation District Act (Chapter 1294 of 37 the Statutes of 1945) is amended to read:
- 38 Sec. 8. (a) The district attorney, county surveyor, county 39 assessor, county tax collector, county auditor, and county 40 treasurer of the County of San Luis Obispo, and their successors

9 AB 2701

in office, and all their assistants, deputies, clerks and, employees, and all other officers of-said San Luis Obispo County, their assistants, deputies, clerks and employees, shall be ex officio officers, assistants, deputies, clerks, and employees respectively of said San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District the district, and shall respectively perform, unless otherwise provided by the board, the same various duties for-said the district as for-said San Luis Obispo County, in order to carry out the provisions of this act; provided, however, that where.

- (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), if the county surveyor is a registered civil engineer and is employed by the board of supervisors to supervise the engineering work of-said the district, the board may provide for compensation for his or her services hereunder under this act payable from the funds of the district, in addition to his or her salary as county surveyor of San Luis Obispo County.
- SEC. 6. Section 13 of the of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Act (Chapter 1294 of the Statutes of 1945), as amended by Chapter 2045 of the Statutes of 1959, is amended to read:
- Sec. 13. The board shall have power, in any year to do any of the following:

1. To levy

(a) Levy ad valorem taxes or assessments upon all property in the district to pay the general administrative costs and expenses of the district, and to carry out any of the objects or purposes of this act of common benefit to the district, and, to the extent authorized by law, for the purposes of the district.

2. To levy

(b) Levy taxes or assessments upon all property in each or any of—said the zones and participating zones to pay the cost and expenses of carrying out, constructing, maintaining, operating, repairing, or otherwise improving any or all works or improvements established or to be established within or on behalf of—said the respective zones, according to the benefits derived or to be derived by—said the respective zones.

3. To levy

(c) (1) Levy taxes or assessments upon all taxable property in each or any of-said the zones, according to the special benefits

AB 2701 — 10 —

derived or to be derived therein to pay the cost and expenses of carrying out any of the objects or purposes of this act or special benefit to—such the zones, including the constructing, maintaining, operating, extending, repairing, or otherwise improving any or all works of improvement established or to be established within or on behalf of—said the respective zones.

(2) In the event of project cooperation with any of the governmental bodies as authorized in subdivision—7 (g) of Section 5 of this act, and the making of a contract with any—such governmental body for the purposes set forth in—said that subdivision—7, by the terms of which work is agreed to be performed by—any—such that governmental body in any specified zone or participating zones, for the particular benefit thereof, and by—said contract it is agreed that the district is to pay to—such the governmental body, a sum of money in consideration or subvention for the performance of—said the work by—such the governmental body, the board may levy and collect a special tax or assessment upon the property in—such the zone or participating zones,—whereby to raise funds to enable the district to make—such that payment, in addition to other taxes or assessments—herein otherwise provided for authorized by this act.

Said

(d) The taxes or assessments shall be levied and collected together with, and not separately from, taxes for county purposes, and the revenues derived from-said the district taxes or assessments shall be paid into the county treasury to the credit of said the district, or the respective zones thereof, and the board shall have the power to control and order the expenditure thereof for said those purposes; provided, however, that no. No revenues, or portions thereof, derived in any of the several zones from the taxes or assessments levied under the provisions of subdivision 2 of this section (b) shall be expended for constructing, maintaining, operating, extending, repairing, or otherwise improving any works or improvements located in any other zones, except in the case of joint projects, or for projects authorized or established outside-such the zone, or zones, but for the benefit thereof. In cases of projects joint to two or more zones, such the zones will shall become, and shall be referred to as, participating zones.

-11- AB 2701

SEC. 7. Section 28 of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Act (Chapter 1294 of the Statutes of 1945) is amended to read:

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Sec. 28. There is hereby granted to San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District the district the right of way for the location, construction, and maintenance of flood control channels, ditches, waterways, conduits, canals, storm dykes, embankments, and protective works in, over, and across public lands of the State of California state, not otherwise disposed of or in use, not in any case exceeding in length or width that which is necessary for the construction of such those works and adjuncts or for the protection thereof. Whenever any selection of a right of way for-such those works or adjuncts thereto is made by the district, the board-thereof must shall transmit to the State Lands Commission, the Controller-of the State, and the recorder of the county in which the selected lands are situated, a plat of the lands so selected, giving the extent thereof and the uses for which the same is claimed or desired, duly verified to be correct. If the State Lands Commission-shall approve approves the selections-so made, it shall endorse its approval upon the plat and issue to the district a permit to use such right of way and lands.

SEC. 8. Section 36.8 of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Act (Chapter 1294 of the Statutes of 1945), as amended by Chapter 2045 of the Statutes of 1959, is amended to read:

Sec. 36.8. In the application of the acts laws referred to in-all of the preceding Sections-36.1, 36.2, 36.3, 36.4, 36.5, 36.6, and 36.7, the terms used in those acts laws shall have the following meanings:

- (a) "City"-refers to means the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District district district.
- (b) "City council" or "legislative body"—refers to means the Board of Supervisors of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District board of the district.
- (c) "Mayor" refers to means the Chairman chairperson of the Board of Supervisors of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District board of the district.

AB 2701 — 12 —

(d) "Clerk"—refers to means the Secretary of the Board of Supervisors of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District secretary of the board of the district.

- (e) "Council chambers" refers to means the place designated by the Board of Supervisors of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District board of the district for holding its regular meetings.
- (f) "Treasurer" refers to means the Treasurer of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District treasurer of the district.
- (g) "Auditor" refers to means the Auditor of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District auditor of the district.
 - (h) "Tax collector" means county tax collector.
- (i) "Superintendent of streets" or "street superintendent" and "city engineer" refer to means the Engineer of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation; District engineer of the district.
- (j) "Right of way" refers to means any parcel of land to which a right of way has been granted to the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District district.
- (k) All—words relating references to municipal officers and matters—refer to means the corresponding officers of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District district.
- SEC. 9. Section 36.16 of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Act (Chapter 1294 of the Statutes of 1945), as amended by Chapter 2045 of the Statutes of 1959, is amended to read:
- Sec. 36.16. Division 4 (commencing with Section 2800) of the Streets and Highways Code which division is cited as the Special Assessment Investigation, Limitation and Majority Protest Act of 1931, Division 5 (commencing at Section 2800) of the Streets and Highways Code, shall not be applicable apply to San Luis Obispo Countr Flood Control and Water Conservation District the district.
- 37 SECTION 1. Section 1701.3 of the Water Code is amended to read:
 - 1701.3. (a) After a petition is filed, the board may request additional information reasonably necessary to clarify, amplify,

-13- AB 2701

correct, or otherwise supplement the information required to be submitted under this chapter. The board shall provide a reasonable period for submitting the information.

- (b) The additional information may include, but need not be limited to, any of the following:
- (1) Information needed to demonstrate that the change will not injure any other legal user of water.
- (2) Information needed to demonstrate that the change will comply with any applicable requirements of the Fish and Game Code or the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. Sec. 1531 et seq.).
- (3) Information needed to comply with Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code. SEC. 2. Section 1703.6 of the Water Code is amended to read:
- 1703.6. (a) The board may cancel a protest or petition for failure to provide information requested by the board under this chapter within the period provided.
- (b) Except as provided in subdivisions (e) and (d), the board may not cancel a protest for failure to submit information not in the possession or under the control of the protestant if the protest meets the requirements of Section 1703.2 and the petitioner is or could be required to submit the information under Section 1701.1, 1701.2, or 1701.3.
- (c) If a protest is based on injury to a legal user of water, the board may cancel the protest if the protestant fails to submit any of the following information requested by the board:
- (1) Information that the protestant is required to submit to the board to comply with Part 5.1 (commencing with Section 5100) during any period after the protest is filed.
- (2) Information that is reasonably necessary to determine if the protestant has a valid water right.
- (3) Information concerning the protestant's historical, current, or proposed future diversion and use of water that is reasonably necessary to determine if the proposed change will result in injury to the protestant's exercise of its water right.
- (d) If the protest is based on an allegation other than injury to a legal user of water, the board may cancel the protest for failure to submit information requested by the board if the board determines both of the following:

AB 2701 — 14 —

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 (1) The public review period has expired for any draft environmental document or negative declaration required to be circulated for public review and comment pursuant to Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code.

- (2) In the absence of the requested information, there is no substantial evidence in light of the whole record to support the allegation.
- (e) If a protest is subject to both subdivisions (e) and (d), the part of the protest subject to subdivision (e) may be canceled pursuant to subdivision (e) and the part of the protest subject to subdivision (d) may be canceled pursuant to subdivision (d).